

**Washington, DC - Rep. Brad Miller (NC-13)** notified the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department that it is the recipient of a \$9,329 grant from the Department of Justice to educate students early about the dangers of gang involvement.

Rockingham County has experienced a steady rise in gang activity in the past several years including drive-by shootings, armed robberies, drugs, and incidents of breaking and entering.

"Gang awareness and education on gang-related activities is very important to officers in our county," said **Rockingham County Sheriff Sam Page**. "We need to educate our children about the dangers of gang involvement and we need this kind of funding to maintain our programs."

The grant will fund the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program which trains officers to teach 6th graders in Rockingham County gang awareness, anti-violence techniques and other behaviors to avoid destructive activities. The goal is to show students ways to avoid gang pressure.

"The rise in gang violence in Rockingham County is disturbing," said **Rep. Miller**. "Sheriff Page and the department deserve praise for finding early solutions to this growing problem in their community."